REPLY

Ms. Sato, Examiner of the Patent Office

1. Identification of the International Application

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5. Arguments

(The invention described in claim 1)

The invention of claim 1 after amendment is characterized in "An image display that separates by a separating means respectively different images displayed on a screen, wherein one separating element exists corresponding to a minimum unit image group responsible for displaying said different images, respective separating elements are not joined to each other, and oblique line portions, which are non-parallel to a contour of pixels, exist in a contour of each separating element".

On the contrary, the cited document 1 has a configuration in which a lenticular lens is obliquely arranged. That is, it is a configuration in which long separating elements having oblique line portions uninterruptedly exist in such a manner as to lie over a plurality of pixels.

With the configuration in which long separating elements having oblique line portions uninterruptedly exist in such a manner as to lie over a plurality of pixels, pixels of other visual points easily come into view of an observer because of a movement of the observer's head in the vertical direction (upward and downward directions), as a result, it is likely that the observer sees a double image. On the other hand, the invention described in claim 1 as amended clarified the point that "respective separating elements are not joined to each other". Since the respective separating elements are not joined to each other, portions of non-separating element exist. The presence of the portions enables to prevent the pixels of other visual points from coming into view of the observer. This makes it possible to alleviate the situation in which the observer sees a double image due to the movement of the head.

Thus, there is a clear difference (technical characteristic) in the configurations between the invention described in claim 1 as amended and the cited document. Due to the above-described difference, the invention described in claim 1 as amended has a great effect that is not found in the cited document. In addition, no description suggesting the subject matter of the present application is found in the cited document. Therefore, it is absolutely unacceptable that the invention described in claim 1 as amended is obvious. Furthermore, the inventions described in claims 2, 3, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 17, 27, and 28 are dependent on claim 1. As far as the invention described in claim 1 is to be patentable, the inventions described in these claims also have inventive steps.

The invention described in claim 2 as amended is characterized in "An image display according to claim 1, wherein said minimum unit image groups exist in such a manner as to be deviated in a horizontal direction by each one pixel on each line, and the separating elements are formed in an oblique direction corresponding to this deviation". In addition, the invention described in claim 3 as amended is characterized in "An image display according to claim 2, wherein the number of viewpoints is set to be larger than two, and said separating element has a shape having intervals with pixels for another image in other oblique direction wider than intervals with pixels for the same image in said oblique direction". Thus, the amendment solved the imperfection that "it is unclear that the "oblique direction" described in claim 3 means which direction". It is clear that the above amendment is not a new matter from the description of line 6 to line 26 on page 7 (specifically, the part of (with respect to a pixel of the image ①, a pixel of the image ③ is the above-descried other pixel, for example)) and line 21 to line 23 on page 3 of the original specification.

(The invention described in claim 18)

The invention described in the added claim 18 is characterized in "An image display that separates by a separating means respectively different images displayed on a screen, wherein one separating element exists corresponding to a minimum unit image group responsible for displaying said different images, respective separating elements are joined to each other, oblique line portions, which are non-parallel to a contour of a pixel, exist in a contour of each separating element, and oblique portions of each separating element are not aligned on a straight line".

On the contrary, the cited document 1 has a configuration in which a lenticular lens is obliquely arranged. That is, it is a configuration in which long separating elements having oblique line portions uninterruptedly exist in such a manner as to lie

over a plurality of pixels, and the oblique line portions are aligned on a straight line.

With the configuration in which long separating elements having oblique line portions uninterruptedly exist in such a manner as to lie over a plurality of pixels, pixels of other viewpoints easily come into view of an observer because of a movement of the observer's head in the vertical direction (upward and downward directions), as a result, it is likely that the observer sees a double image. On the other hand, the invention described in the added claim 18 clarified the point that the "oblique line portions of each separating element are not aligned on a straight line". The oblique line portions of each separating element are not aligned on a straight line, so that unevenness is generated. As a result, these unevennesses function as portions of non-separating elements, and the presence of the portions enables to prevent pixels of other viewpoints from coming into view of the observer. This makes it possible to alleviate the situation in which the observer sees a double image due to the movement of the head.

Thus, there is a clear difference (technical characteristic) in configurations between the invention described in the added claim 18 and the cited document. Due to the above-described difference, the invention described in the added claim 18 has a great effect that is not found in the cited document. In addition, no description suggesting the subject matter of the present application is found in the cited document. Therefore, it is absolutely unacceptable that the invention described in the added claim 18 is obvious. Furthermore, the inventions described in claims 19 to 28 are dependent on claim 18. As far as the invention of claim 18 is to be patentable, the inventions of these claims also have inventive steps.

As mentioned above, in the invention described in claim 1 as amended, since the respective separating elements are not joined to each other, the portions of non-separating elements exist. On the other hand, in the invention described in the

added claim 18, since oblique line portions of the respective separating elements are not aligned on a straight line, unevennesses are generated, and unevennesses become the portions of non-separating elements. In addition, both of the inventions have an operational advantage such as to alleviate the situation in which an observer sees a double image, over the prior art (the cited document). Both of the inventions have a technical relationship including a common special technical characteristic capable of obtaining the portions of non-separating elements.